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TO : C/OTC

20 January 1972

25X1A9a FROM : [REDACTED] E-110

SUBJECT: Final Critique of the Basic Operations Course 72/1

25X1A9a In general, I thought that the course was very good. With a few minor exceptions, all of the objectives outlined in the initial statement of purpose were covered. The technical training was exceptionally good. Presentations by guest speakers in the audio field, however, needs better coordination. I suggest that [REDACTED] be tasked with presenting the basic electrical concepts inherent in all audio devices and allow guest speakers to concentrate on their special topic. Several of the guest speakers consumed as much as half their allotted time in re-stating the same basic concepts.

25X1A14a Trade craft and reports lectures were good and provided a sound foundation from which to work. [REDACTED] - is an extremely difficult concept to put into application, and I believe a great deal more time should be allotted for this essential topic. Periodic reviews would help to reinforce the concepts too. Guest speakers should be encouraged to outline their comm in detail. My observations on Comm, unfortunately, arise in retrospect; certainly, I had sufficient opportunity to ask speakers to elaborate on their Comm systems. [REDACTED] Reporting Hints were very useful and should be fully incorporated in the course.

25X1A2g I have no complaints regarding the exercises in particular. Both [REDACTED] were interesting, and I suggest that several of each type be added if possible. [REDACTED], while obviously useful, was difficult to take seriously. After a week of training I was in no need to gather [REDACTED] on the weekends. I think that the [REDACTED] exercise was a bit over-played but extremely useful for me. In the past I've always had the option of by-passing an obnoxious person rather than being forced into dealing with him. Perhaps several handling problems should be introduced. [REDACTED] was an excellent exercise and very useful in putting all the skills into perspective.

25X1A2g The Headquarters tour did a great service in putting the reporting process into perspective; the Ops Center tour was also interesting. I would suggest that two or three days during the course should be left open to provide the student with an opportunity to visit his division or handle his affairs at Headquarters.

25X1A2g There needs to be a channel of communication available for the student when he has difficulties with his counselor. The channel must be confidential and should be available at all times. Personality conflicts should not be  
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25X1A14a      ments during the course. The student should have some voice, or at least recourse, in the selection of his counselor. Neither student nor counselor derives much benefit from [REDACTED] of stilted conversations and no rapport.

25X1A2g      I think that the Monday and Friday schedules should be rearranged so  
25X1A6a      that Monday's classes begin late enough in the mornings to allow the students the option of driving back to [REDACTED] that morning. Traffic conditions [REDACTED] are all too perilous on Sunday night; and, one of these days, someone is going to get killed. Friday's schedule could be extended until 1700 hours, and those students who failed to arrive in time for Monday's classes could listen to tapes during the week. This suggestion is not made frivolously.

In conclusion, I was very pleased with the course and gained a great deal of useful instruction.

25X1A9a      [REDACTED]

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